LIBRARY

A 28 FEB 1944 C.R.

WEM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1943.

Mr. Chairman, Madam, and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my fifth Annual Report. The Minister of Health has requested that it should be prepared on lines similar to those of the previous four years dealing briefly with subjects of current interest.

Restrictions are to be taken as last year in regard to the publication of population figures etc. Arrangements are to be made for the preservation of all records which cannot be published in this report.

Your obedient servant,

L.WILSON EVANS.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Name.	Qualifications.	Office Held.	Whole or Part time.
L.Wilson Evans.	M.B.,B.S.,L.R.C.P. M.R.C.S., D.P.H.	Medical Officer of Health.	Part.
F.Morcom.	M.I.S.E., C.R.S.I. M.S.I.A.	Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.	Whole.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

Birth Rate per 1000 population	19.9
Birth Rate England and Wales	16.5
Still Birth Rate	0.85
Still Birth Rate England and Wales	0.54
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age per 1000 births	64
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age England and Wales	49
Death Rate per 1000 population	16.5
Death Rate England and Wales	12.1

CHIEF CAUSES OF DEATH.

	M.	F.	Total.
Heart Disease	3	7	10
Cancer	1	6	7
Intra Cranial Vascular lesions	3	3	6
Deaths from Measles		Nil	
Deaths from Whooping Cough		Nil	
Deaths from Diarrhoea under 2 years		Nil.	
Maternal Deaths		Nil.	

The number of births show a rise in keeping with the rest of the Country. Last years' record figures are still further improved, but owing to some increase in the number of deaths the natural

increase in the population is 8 as against 15 last year. There is some improvement in the infant mortality figure but it continues higher than for the Country as a whole. The reduction in deaths from Cancer noted last year has not been maintained. This year's figures are about the average for recent years. It is gratifying to report that for the third consecutive year no deaths occurred as a result of child birth.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Name of Disease.

Age. Yrs.	Measles. M.	Measles. F.	Whooping Cough. M.	Whooping Cough. F.	Pneumonia. M.	Pneumonia. F.	Scarlet Fever. M.	Scarlet Fever. F.	Diphtheria. M.	Diphtheria. F.
0-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
3-	3	2	3	4	-	1	-	-	-	-
5-	3	2	4	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
10-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	3	-	-
15-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
45-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 or over	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Totals	7	6	8	7	2	3	-	3	1	-
	13		15		5		3		1	

There was no serious outbreak of Infectious Disease during the year. A few cases of Measles and Whooping Cough were notified. There were no deaths.

The three cases of Scarlet Fever were in a boarding school in the town, where the outbreak was fortunately speedily checked and no cases occurred outside the school.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Immunisation has made progress as the following figures show but not to the extent that one would like to see especially among the children under 5 years.

	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.
No. immunised children 5-15 years.	19%	49%	64%	69%
No. immunised children under 5 yrs.	14%	26%	51%	53%

TUBERCULOSIS.

Number of cases on Register at end of 1943.

Respiratory. M.	Respiratory. F.	Non-Respiratory. M.	Non-Respiratory. F.	Total.
5	4	2	3	
9		5		14

Ages.	Respiratory Tuberculosis. New Cases.		Admitted to Sanatorium.		Deaths.		Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis. New Cases.		Admitted to Sanatorium.		Deaths.	
Years.	M.	F.	M.	F	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-
10-20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20-30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
30-50	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
50 or Over.	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	2	-	-	-	2	-	2	1	-	-	-	-

In last year's report I noted that the decrease in Respiratory Tuberculosis was not reflected in the figures for the non-respiratory form of the disease. The upward trend in the number of cases of this disease is unfortunately still in evidence in the figures for the past year.

WATER SUPPLY.

The sufficiency and quality of the water which is a constant supply has given no reason for complaint. Only six houses are not supplied from the Council mains. About 5% of the houses and population are supplied by means of standpipes. The rest have water supplied directly to the houses. The following is a report of the bacteriologist on a sample of water from the mains.

B.Coli absent from 100ml.

Viable Bacterial Count at 22° C	13 per ml.
Viable Bacterial Count at 37° C	6 per ml.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Milk.

No. of producers of undesignated milk on the register.	13
No. of inspections made.	23
No. of defects found.	3
No. of preliminary notices served.	3
No. complied with.	3
No. of T.T. milk sellers.	Nil
No. of certified milk sellers.	Nil
No. of pasteurised milk sellers	Nil
No. of accredited milk sellers.	1
No. of inspections.	1

No sample of milk was taken by the Urban Council but a sample of accredited milk taken by the County Council did not satisfy the prescribed tests.

In general the conditions were found to be satisfactory and no complaints have been received about the quality of the milk distributed in the area.

A curious fact is that the bulk of the milk produced in the district is sold to the Milk Marketing Board and the bulk of the milk consumed in the district is produced outside the district.

Housing.

Only one case of overcrowding was brought to notice. The house is owned by the Council and notice was served on the occupier to abate the overcrowding. The notice was complied with. In general the smaller houses are still occupied to maximum capacity through evacuation and lodgers.

Water Supply.

With a few exceptions the whole of the district is supplied by the Council. The supply was satisfactory in quantity and quality and is chlorinated at the pumping station. The chlorination plant consists of a Candy Minor pump and accessories.